August 15, 1989
Vol. 4, No. 13

# ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT NEWS

*Dedicated to the Control of Air, Water, Waste Water, Pollution and Hazardous Materials*

## Reduction, Recycling Top List

*Senators work to amend Solid Waste Disposal Act*

At least two bills in the Senate seek to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965, updating the law to deal with more complex problems.

S. 1112 and S. 1113 are sponsored by Sens. John H. Chaffee, R-R.I., and Max Baucus, D-Mont., respectively, and were presented in June. Only one hearing has been held and that was before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

"We're consuming more and more disposable products and we're running out of dumps," Baucus told his colleagues. "So it should come as no surprise that we're on the brink of a nationwide solid waste crisis."

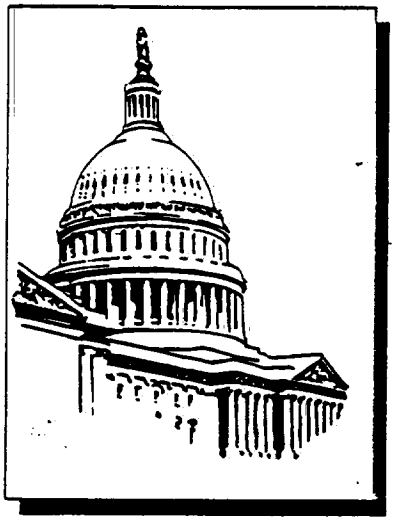
Baucus said landfills are filling up and contributing to other contamination problems. "I recently received a letter from a man in Helena, Mont., whose drinking-water well is contaminated by a rural landfill. His water is laced with so many toxins that he is now forced to drink bottled water," he said.

Baucus said strong legislation such as S. 1112 and S. 1113 should be passed so that "no state becomes a dumping ground for the nation" and "so that today's landfills don't become tomorrow's Superfund sites."

Chaffee's Municipal Solid Waste Source Reduction and Recycling Act of 1989 establishes national goals of the following:

- a 10 percent reduction in municipal solid waste by 1993 as a result of source reduction;
- a 25 percent reduction by the same year as a result of recycling; and
- a 50 percent reduction by 1999 as a result of recycling.

*continued on page 2*



## Safe Route Not Followed

The tractor-trailer driver who died in an accident early this month wasn't following a designated route in Dallas, Texas, for hazardous materials transport.

Carrying polypropylene glycol, a non-hazardous substance, and pressurized titanium and hexane trichloride, a flammable and corrosive compound, the tandem trailer careened off an interstate ramp Aug. 1 and killed William Cook, 31, of Garland, Texas.

The routes were established to restrict vehicle traffic in congested and hard-to-reach places (see June 15 EMN). However, the city has had little police manpower to monitor the use of the safe routes by truckers.

After the Aug. 1 mishap, officials shut down central routes and created an early-morning traffic jam.

The polypropylene leaked from one

*continued on page 3*

## Inside

**Mission Earth** 3
*A NASA satellite project could help fill in the scientific gaps for the Earth's climate, land, crops, ocean and forests. All it needs is support from the Bush administration.*

**Nuclear or No?** 6
*EMN wants to know what you think about the future of the nuclear power industry.*

**Real E$tate** 7
*Better to clean up than wash out when it comes to buying and selling property. An attorney and a soil scientist tell how.*

## 'Biodynamic' Means Magic

The ingredients of a biodynamic compost sound something like a witch's brew and, surprisingly, its magic is just as potent.

Yarrow blossoms aged in a stag bladder, dandelions in cow membrane or winter-seasoned cow manure mixed with 98.6-degree Fahrenheit water all play an important part in the spiritual growing methods.

The parts of the brew and their preparation are supposed to be tuned in to a cosmic frequency that transmutes the materials into helpful or improving products.

About 1,500 gardeners and 100 farms in the United States practice biodynamic methods. They follow the teachings of an Austrian philosopher/scientist who, 65 years ago, believed that certain methods could balance the spiritual and earthly forces in foods. The farms can be found in California, the Midwest and New England.

Biodynamic foods haven't reached the level of popularity in the U.S. that they have in Europe. In that market, biodynamic products bring prices

*continued on page 3*

©Copyright 1989 by Stevens Publishing Corporation, 225 North New Road, Waco, Texas 76714-7573 (817) 776-9000. No quotation or redistribution without written permission of the publisher.
Published twice monthly. Subscription price U.S. and Canada $240 a year. ($255 Foreign)

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nghm0000

2021391347